

Frederick County Government Frederick, Maryland



News Release

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With the support of key partners and local government leaders . . .

FREDERICK COUNTY WORKFORCE SERVICES LAUNCHES "FREDERICK WORKS! ONE JOB AT A TIME" INITIATIVE

FREDERICK, MD – The Frederick Board of County Commissioners today announced a new initiative to boost the local economy from Frederick County Workforce Services and the Frederick County Workforce Development Board. The county will partner with the Frederick County Chamber of Commerce, City of Frederick Economic Development Department and Frederick County Economic Development Office to launch Frederick WORKS! One Job at a Time, an initiative that encourages businesses to be part of the unemployment solution by filling at least one new job in 2012.

Championed by the Board of County Commissioners, Mayor Randy McClement of The City of Frederick and local municipality leaders, **Frederick WORKS!** *One Job at a Time* is modeled after similar programs in communities throughout the United States that have been successful in generating new job opportunities and getting the unemployed back to work.

According to economists, each new employee added to the workforce increases the gross domestic product on average by \$100,000. Impact at the local level has the potential to be substantial and lasting.

Board President Blaine Young commented, "If each business in Frederick County were to hire just one person this year, the economic impact would be enormous. Even if only a small portion of our businesses hired just one person this year, there would still be a significant and measurable impact on our local economy. We commend Workforce Services and our partners for launching this initiative and furthering this board's 'business-friendly' strategic goals."

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By publicly recognizing employers that have hired or plan to hire in 2012, **Frederick WORKS!** *One Job at a Time* partners hope to bring attention to the fact that businesses <u>are</u> hiring in Frederick. "This can serve to boost the local economy in yet another way through a shift in perception – a positive momentum – that can begin to increase overall consumer and investor confidence," Director Laurie Holden of Workforce Services explained.

Workforce Development Board President Terry O'Malley, vice president of Human Resources at Frederick Memorial Hospital, is eager to recognize companies that want to make an impact on the local workforce and economy. "There are approximately 8,500 businesses in Frederick County. The goal of this campaign is to have at least 1,000 of those businesses participate – about 12 percent of all Frederick County businesses," stated Mr. O'Malley.

Businesses that would like to join the **One Job at a Time** initiative and become a part of the solution can complete and submit a simple form through the Frederick County Workforce Services website at www.FrederickWORKS.com/onejob.

The general public is also welcome to visit www.FrederickWORKS.com/onejob to learn more about this effort, including program updates and a list of participating employers. All are invited to follow the initiative on Twitter: @FredWORKSOneJob and on Facebook by searching for the "Frederick WORKS! One Job at a Time" Community Page.

Frederick County Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Ric Adams is confident that the list of participating employers will be an extensive one. He said, "The Chamber is proud to support this promising initiative to create jobs, get unemployed citizens back to work and boost our economy. I believe that many businesses in Frederick County will rise to the challenge."

<u>Frederick County Workforce Services</u>, a department of the Citizens Services Division, supports the county's revenue base by helping unemployed workers to re-enter the local workforce and become contributing taxpayers again. The department also utilizes grant funding to provide occupational training in high-demand industries to help alleviate critical skills shortages in the current and future labor market.

Workforce Services is located in the Business and Employment Center at 5340 Spectrum Drive, Suite A, Frederick, Md.

For more information about **Frederick WORKS!** *One Job at a Time*, contact Ms. Holden at 301-600-2255 or via e-mail at lholden@frederickcountymd.gov.